

Is an AmeriCorps grant a good fit for your organization?



Tennessee AmeriCorps grants provide assistance to programs to recruit, train and supervise AmeriCorps members meeting critical community needs in the areas of education, disaster services, health, environmental stewardship, economic opportunity and service to veterans and military families.

If your organization has identified an unmet need in the community and is interested in an AmeriCorps program grant, consider the following questions to see if your organization has the capacity to manage federal funds and AmeriCorps members:

- » Has your organization identified a compelling need?
- » Will the service activities that address the compelling need lead to measurable results?
- » Can your organization recruit and train AmeriCorps members to engage in the identified service activities?
- » Can your organization provide on-going supervision, training and support to AmeriCorps members throughout their term of service?
- » Does your organization have sufficient cash flow management to handle a grant on a monthly reimbursement basis?

Who is eligible for AmeriCorps Funding?

- Public or Private Nonprofits
- Educational Institutions
- State and Local Governments
- Faith-based Agencies

What is Needed to Qualify?

- Clear written mission statement
- Well-defined roles for the board of directors, administrators and staff
- Written strategic plan with measureable goals
- Diversified funding sources
- Development/fundraising plan
- Well-defined human resource management
- Regular community needs assessments
- Well-developed evaluation system to measure impact
- Strong community partnerships

Program Management Requires the Ability to:

- Select a site
- Train and conduct oversight
- Recruit, supervise, support and retain members
- Track and report performance
- Evaluate and continuously improve the program
- Train and develop staff

Financial Management Requires the Ability to:

- Manage a federal grant
- Write financial policies and procedures
- Complete an audit by a public accounting firm or complete an A-133 audit
- Report timely and accurate financial information
- Plan to secure financial and in-kind resources to meet required AmeriCorps grant matching funds
- Manage finances in accordance with GAAP

Interested organizations should complete Volunteer Tennessee's ["Is My Organization Ready?"](#) tool to assess their capacity to host an AmeriCorps program.

For additional information, visit Volunteer Tennessee's web site at www.volunteertennessee.net or contact Volunteer.Tennessee@tn.gov

